TABLE 9.—Total number of days with precipitation from 1.01 to 2.00 inches, and with more than 2.00 inches, for the 5-year period 1907-1911, at selected stations in France and in the United States.

FRANCE.			. United States.						
Stations.	1.01 to 2.00 inches.	Over 2.00 inches.	Stations.	1.01 to 2.00 inches.	Over 2.00 inches.				
Nancy. Paris Arras Brest Brest Marseille	Days. 5 3 1 1 1 9	Days. 0 0 1 4	New York, N. Y	39 42 30 47 63 9	Days. 9 6 8 3 4 29 1 0 0 2				

AUTHORITIES: Same as for Tables 7 and 8 above.

Table 10 .- Average number of days with snowfall, at stations in France and United States.

Stations.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	An- nual.
France: Paris—Parc St. Maur (1873–1903)a Montdidier (1784–1893)b. Féoamp (1853–1882)c Brussels, Belgium (1833–1850)d	1 0	3 3 2 4	4 4 2 6	3 3 2 5	3 3 2 5	1 1 0 2	15 15 8 23
United States: New York. Washington. Atlanta, Ga.	l .	1	1	1			20 14 7 30
Atlanta, Ga. Chicago, III. Kansas City, Mo. Oklahoma, Okla. Denver, Colo.							19 7 33

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 Quetelet: Climat de la Beleique, Bruxelles, 1857.

 For the United States, see Table 8 above.

Table 11.—Average cloudiness, in percentages of total sky, at selected station in France and Belgium and in the United States.

The values given in this table for France and Belgium are averages for the various hours of observation and probably approximate the daily averages, the records in most cases covering periods of at least 10 years. Those for the United States represent the normal average daily cloudiness, sunrise to sunset, for a long period of years.

Stations.	January.	February.	March.	April.	Мау.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Annusl.
France: Dunkirk Paris—Parc St. Maur Rouen Brest Angers Nantes Besancon Cluny Nice Marseille Montpellier Toulouse Brussels, Belgium	72 73 65 71 68 75 60 62 36 47 39 68 77	71 72 64 71 61 66 64 53 84 47 38 57 78	% 63 65 58 70 57 63 58 57 32 41 36 57	59 59 56 64 56 64 55 53 48 40 59 62	57 56 51 56 52 58 51 45 38 46 36 57 63	% 58 51 52 67 53 43 29 36 31 55 67	% 55 55 49 64 54 57 48 39 25 23 26 44 63	% 63 49 52 60 53 54 48 39 33 30 28 45 65	60 51 58 61 56 56 49 39 33 42 35 50 58	% 71 53 61 66 61 59 61 37 44 39 52 65	79 62 67 75 69 75 63 33 42 40 61 75	% 72 71 67 64 69 66 65 49 41 66 79	%55 60 58 66 59 63 55 52 34 41 36 56
United States: New York. Washington. Atlanta Chicago. St. Louis. New Orleans Denver. Salt Lake City Seattle. San Francisco.	59 53 54 37	54 54 55 56 54 53 40 58 71 49	56 55 57 57 55 49 46 55 64 48	54 50 49 52 51 47 49 51 60 41	53 50 47 48 50 44 52 47 65 40	51 48 50 47 48 47 41 34 58 35	51 46 54 40 44 52 44 30 42 41	51 48 54 40 39 50 44 42 43	48 45 47 43 38 43 35 30 56 33	48 45 38 48 35 38 36 38 67 35	54 51 45 58 51 46 37 47 75 42	56 54 53 61 58 53 38 58 79 50	53 50 50 52 48 48 41 45 63 43

France—Annales du Bureau Central Météorologique de France, 1884. United States, as above.

TABLE 12.—Prevailing wind directions and average relative humidities for Sevres, Brussels, and Montpellier.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Annual.
	Prevailing winds.												
Sèvres (10 years)	sw	sw	w	sw	NE	w	w	w	w	sw	sw	sw	sw
Brussels (8 years)	sw	sw	sw	sw	sw	N	sw	sw	sw	sw	sw	sw	sw
				4	1 vera	ge re	lativ	e hui	nidit	y			
Sèvres (10 years) 7 a. m	99 78 88	% 89 69 82	% 89 60 78	% 79 51 72	% 73 51 74	% 72 51 76	% 76 54 77	% 82 55 79	% 99 58 83	% 94 68 90	% 92 76 90	% 92 80 80	%
Montpellier (14 years): 9 a. m	82	76	70	67	62	58	56	57	66	71	80	80	

AUTHORITIES: Annual reports of the French and Belgian meteorological services.

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FOG ALONG THE CALIFORNIA COAST.

By Andrew H. Palmer, Observer.

[Dated: Weather Bureau office, San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 15, 1917.]

When the Marine Exchange of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce was asked what proportion of shipwrecks occurring along the California coast was due to fog, the reply was, "All of them." That exchange keeps a detailed record of all marine disasters occurring in the Pacific Ocean. The records previous to 1906 are no longer available, as they were destroyed in the fire which followed the San Francisco earthquake of April 18, 1906. But the record kept since that date is voluminous, for many shipwrecks have occurred. A cursory examination of this record showed that nearly all of those which occurred along the California coast were indirectly due to fog. The winds along the coast of California, though occasionally strong, are seldom of destructive violence. Hurricanes are practically unknown. Storms of the type which sweep the Atlantic coast of the United States every winter are of rare occurrence. At Point Reyes local winds often exceed 100 miles per hour in velocity, and the records include some of the highest winds ever recorded at sealevel in the United States. But these velocities, while true, are restricted to the immediate vicinity of the Point, and never occur along the routes followed by steamers. Along the California coast, clear-weather gales seldom cause more inconvenience to shipping than delayed schedules. But fog, which is unfortunately of frequent occurrence, and often of long duration, is a serious obstacle, and is without question the greatest menace to navigation.

Though there has been an increasing demand on the part of mariners for trustworthy fog data, the Weather Bureau, until recently, has been unable to render effective service in this matter. Though situated near the coast, the regular Weather Bureau stations at Eureka, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, Los Angeles, and San Diego were nevertheless too far removed from the steamer lanes to secure the desired data. However, during the

summer of 1916, an arrangement was effected between the Lighthouse Service and the Weather Bureau whereby the latter secures a report each month showing the number of hours of dense fog at each of 41 fog signal stations. (Throughout this discussion all references to "fog" imply "dense fog," the technical term used in the Weather Bureau describing the condition under which objects are invisible at a distance of 1,000 feet. No cognizance is here taken of light fog, where objects are visible at a greater distance than that named.) At these 41 stations, all but three of which are lighthouses, there are various kinds of fog signals in operation during times of fog, both by day and by night, and the keepers are instructed to keep an accurate record of the time. These reports are collected each month by the lighthouse inspector, San Francisco, who in turn forwards copies to the Section Centerof the Weather Bureau, at Sacramento, Cal., where they are published monthly in the "Climatological Data for the California Section.'

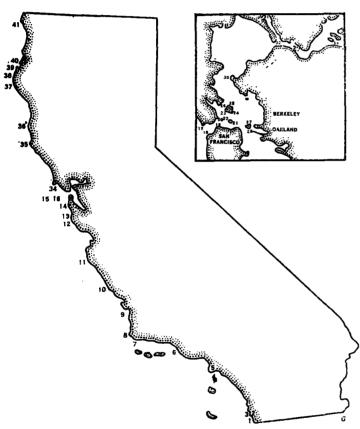


FIGURE 1.—Outline map of California indicating by reference numbers the approximate positions of fogsignal stations given in Tables 1 and 2. (Insert: Detail of San Francisco Bay stations.)

Table 1 gives the names of the 41 fog signal stations, the latitude and the longitude of each, the height of the light above high tide, and the kind of fog signal in use. The stations at Blunts Reef and San Francisco Light Vessel are on board vessels which are anchored in fixed positions in the steamer lanes. All the others are on headlands, rocks, or breakwaters closely adjacent to the routes followed by coastwise steamers, or those entering or leaving port. About one-half of these are situated in or near San Francisco Bay. The approximate positions of the 41 fog signal stations from which reports are received are shown graphically in figure 1, in which the numbers given refer to those stated in Table 1.

Table 1.—Fog signal stations on the coast of California.

Ref. Nos.	Lighthouse.	Le	stitu Vorti	de h.		ngit Ves		Height of light above high tide.*	Fog signal machinery.
		•	,	"	•	,	,,	Feet.	
1	Point Loma	32	39		117	14	32	88 34	First-class air siren. Bell.
2	Ballast Point La Playa	32	41 42		117 117	13 14	58 05	28	Do.
4	Los Angeles Outer Harb-	33	42		118	15	03	73	First-class air siren.
5	bor. Los Angeles Inner Har- bor.	33	43	15	118	16	13	(a)	Bell.
6	Point Hueneme	34	08	45	119	12	34	52	First-class air siren.
7	Point Conception Point Arguello	34	26	56	120	28	13	133	Air diaphone.
8	Point Arguello	34	34 09	41 38	120 120	39 45	00	100 130	First-class air siren. Do.
10	San Luis Obispo Piedras Blancas Point Sur Ano Nuevo Island	35	39	57	121	17	37 01	158	Do. Do.
îĭ	Point Sur	36	18	24	121 121 122	54	03		Do.
12	Ano Nuevo Island	37	06	20	122	20	10	73	Do.
13	Pigeon Point Point Montara	37	10	56	122	23	36	148	Do.
14	Point Montara	37	32	15	122	31	06	70	12-inch steam whis- tle.
15	Farallon Islands	37	41	58	123	00	04	358	Air diaphone.
16	Farallon Islands San Francisco Light Ves-	37	45	03	122	41	30	57	12-inch steam whis-
17	sel. Bonita Point	37	48	57	122	31	44	124	tle.b First-class steam si- ren.
18	Mile Rocks	37	47	35	122	30	35	78	10-inch air whistle.
19	Fort Point	37	48	39	122	28	36		Air diaphone. 12-inch steam whis-
20	Lime Point	37	49	33	122	28	39	19	12-inch steam whis-
21	Alcatraz Island, South Side.	37	49	36	122	25	17	214	Electric siren.
22	Alcatraz Island, North Side.	37	49	43	122	25	28	(a)	Do.
23	Angol Island	37	51	23	122	26	31	34	Bell.
24	Point Blunt	37	51	10	122	25	04	60	Electric siren.
25	Immigration Station	37	52	17	122	25			Bell.
26 27	Point Blunt. Immigration Station Point Stuart Goat Island	37	51 48	40	$\frac{122}{122}$	26 21	42 41	80 95	Electric siren. 10-inch steam whis-
~"	Goat Island		40		1	21	41	"	tle.
28	Oakland Harbor	37	48	02	122	19	äl	43	Bell.
29	Southampton Shoul	37	52		122	23	58		Do.
30	East Brother Island		57 04		122	25	58	61 74	12-inch steam whis- tle. Bell.
31 32	Mare Island	38	04 04	26 15	$\frac{122}{122}$	'15 14	15 32	56	First-class air siren.
33	Roe Island	38	04	07	122	õi	40	41	Bell.
34	Point Keyes	37	59	40	123	01	21	294	Air diaphone. First-class air siren.
35	Carquinez Strait Roe Island Point Reyes Point Arena	38	57	19	123	44	24	155	First-class air siren.
36	romt Cabrino	-39	20 15	56 03	123 124	49 20	31 57	84 75	Do. Do.
37 38	Punta Gorda Blunts Reef	40	26		124	30	14	50	12-inch steam whis- the.b
39	Humboldt Table Bluff	40	41	45	124	16	24	176	First-class air siren.
40	Humboldt Bay St. George Reef	40	45	41	$\frac{124}{124}$	13 22	18 28	(a) 146	Do. Do.
41									

^{*} Fog signals are sometimes at a different altitude, a No light. b Also a submarine bell.

DURATION OF FOG.

Table 2 summarizes the duration of fog at 41 fog signal stations of California for a period of one year. So far as is known, this is the first time such complete fog data collected along the California coast and covering a year of time, have been assembled and published. The year was an ordinary one from a meteorological standpoint, and may safely be regarded as typical. The summary presents interesting details. The summer months had the most fog, the greatest amount having occurred in September. The winter months had the least fog, the smallest amount having occurred in March. During August, 1917, Humboldt Table Bluff had 442 hours of fog, or 59 per cent of the month; at Blunts Reef during the same month there were 418 hours of fog, or 56 per cent of the month. At Point Reyes, where the sun is sometimes hidden by fog for three and four weeks at a time, there were 370 hours of fog during July, 1917, or 51 per cent of that month. On account of its persistent fog mantle, Point Reyes has the unique distinction of being the coolest place in the United States during the midsummer months.

¹ See, however, U. S. Bureau of Lighthouses. The United States Lighthouse Service, 1915. Washington, 1916. Also this Review, January, 1916, 44: 21, and the present issue, p. 499.

It is apparent from the table that from Point Arguello northward fog is of frequent occurrence, particularly during the summer months. Point Arguello, where the fogs are invariably thick, is recognized among mariners to be one of the most dangerous points on the Pacific Coast. The Golden Gate, the entrance to San Francisco Bay, is also a region of frequent fog, and shipwrecks have been numerous as a result. Most prominent of these was the wreck, on Fort Point Reef, on February 22, 1901, of the steamer Rio de Janeiro with the loss of 127 lives. Near Blunts Reef, another region of excessive fog, the passenger steamer Bear, valued at more than \$1,000,000, went ashore in the summer of 1916 during a dense fog. Five lives were lost and the vessel is still breaking up on the beach. In the immediate vicinity of Humboldt Bay, the harbor of Eureka, a total of 19 shipwrecks have occurred in the past 10 years, all due indirectly to fog. Notable among these was the stranding, during January, 1917, of U. S. submarine H-3 during a fog. Though this vessel was finally salvaged, the U. S. S. Milwaukee (2070) tone displacement) in attempting to research ber (9,700 tons displacement), in attempting to rescue her went ashore during a fog and was a total loss. No large vessel has ever been refloated from these shoals, and many have found graves there.

Table 2.—Duration of fog (hours) at fog signal stations on the coast of California September, 1916, to August, 1917.

[Authority: U. S. Lighthouse Service.]

					19	17.					Year.				
Ref. Nos.	Lighthouse.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.	Per cent.
_	Delat I ama	Hr.	Hr.	Hr.	Hr.	Hr.	Hr.	Hr.	Hr.	Hr.	Hr.	Hr. 47	Hr.	Hr. 209	_
1 2 3	Point Loma Ballast Point La Playa	3 4 7	22 22 21	31 11 11	9 8 11	0	75 44 51	6 2 1	0	10 11 22	22 35	68 81	51 50	213 290	3 3
4	Los Angeles Outer Harbor Los Angeles	51	68	47	49	10	51	28	15	98	83	105	91	696	8
5 6	Inner Harbor Point Hueneme	31 12	43 25	27 18 2	22 43	1 4		4 44	18 34	79. 102	52 101	65 67		433 545	5
7 8 9	Point Conception. Point Arguello	13 14	31 40	2 25 3	124	32 17	100	357	15 108 86	81 230 236	16 28 42	68 20	70	419 1, 197	14 14 12
10 11	San Luis Obispo. Piedras Blancas. Point Sur	1 14 7	27 33 36	20 43	83 93 76	23 22	73 54 98	356 204	76 103	280 280 252	26 54	49 30	68	1,013 1,092 963	12
17 13	Ano Nuevo Island Pigeon Point	36 22	52 49	36 34	84 75	15 10	71 63	150 151	62 53	258 231	67 73	50 44	101 72	982 877	11
14 15 16	Point Montara Farallon Island San Francisco	42 28	69 96	48 56	87 107	36 33	94 \$5	156 171	65 111	264 223	109 79	36 28	46	1,080 1,063	12
17	Light Vessel Bonita Point	88 70		27	100	31 16		145	250 68	304 281	178 91	51	74	1,690 1,086	12
18 19 20	Mile Rocks Fort Point Lime Point	52 60 52	68	27 11 22	69 80 66	21 8 6		133	69 74 49	251 238 235	84 86 77	40 48 40	69	952 937 848	11
21	Alcatraz Island, South Side	53	1				i	İ	1	159	45		Į.		ŀ
22 23	Alcatraz Island, North Side Angel Island	56 18				2	50 0			185 11	53 11	33 10	46 10	662 100	
24 25	Point Blunt Immigration Sta-	45	35	13	24	0	28	72 		-		i			1
26 27	Point Stuart Goat Island	25 36		10	3	Ō	Ó	7	0) š	14	10	11	45 98 122	
28 29	Cakland Harbor . Southampton	26	11	4	0	0	Ú	U	1	9	11	9	10	80	1
30	Shoal East Brother Is- land	34		1	1		-		1			22	5		
31 82	Mare Island Carquinez Strait	66	16 19	8	6 7	ō	0	5	7	4 5	31	21 20	22 21 30	175 200	
33 34 35	Roe Island	75 86 14	179	67	158	96	158 108	370	326		167	70 22	60	2, 107 1, 294	$\frac{2}{1}$
36 37	Point Cabrillo Punta Gorda	11	69 20	56 54	49 35	14	95	280 134		191 166 186	132 79	19	53 22	1, 298 780	1
38 39	Blunts Reef Humboldt Table Bluff	54	127	28	60	81	161	253	442	195	175	50	60	1,683 1,685	19
40 41	Humboldt Bay Saint George Reef	60	118	29	35 34	26	134	141	257	228 136	223 174	77	7.1	1, 402 1, 144	11
	Means: Number of									-	i				
	hours Per cent	35. 5	50.3 7	25. 1 3	48. 5 7	17. 1 2	63. 3 9	122. 6 17	93. 4 13	143. 0 19		38.0	49. 6 7	756. 5 9	

Since fog can not directly cause shipwreck, its influence is always indirect, and it is almost invariably aided and abetted by a strong current or brisk winds. A treacherous undercurrent occurs at many points along the Pacific coast, causing a vessel to "set" as the navigators term it. However, fog remains the principal contributing cause, since few shipwrecks would occur along the coast of California if there were no fog. When for days at a time navigators are unable to determine a ship's position by the usual astronomical methods, navigation is necessarily hazardous. Even when the position is known there is danger of collision with another vessel. Cantious navigators therefore usually proceed at slow speed during a fog, if they proceed at all.

THE NATURE OF FOG ALONG THE CALIFORNIA COAST.

The nature of California coast fog has long been known to meteorologists, but a brief description would seem appropriate here. Broadly speaking, it may be separated into two classes, Summer fog and Winter fog. These will be discussed separately in the following:

Summer fog.—During the summer months the entire

Summer fog.—During the summer months the entire California coast has a more or less persistent fog bank offshore and extending westward a distance of approximately 50 miles. The bank seldom exceeds 2,000 feet and is usually about 1,500 feet in vertical thickness. During the summer half-year, atmospheric conditions in California are dominated by the extensive North Pacific High, which is a region of weak barometric gradients and hence of little wind movement. However, the excessive heating from insolation of the great interior valleys of California causes the air over the interior to rise, its place being taken by air drawn in from the west, the high Sierra Nevada preventing air coming in from the east. At places where there are breaks in the Coast Range the indraught of air is marked. Wind velocities of 25 to 30 miles per hour occur regularly every summer afternoon near the Golden Gate. This indraught of air from the west brings in the ocean fog to the land, but it usually dissipates or becomes high fog or cloud before penetrating far. It should be noted that the fog originates over the ocean and occasionally is drawn in over the land.

The origin of the summer type of fog is principally the mixing of masses of air differing in temperature and relative humidity, the temperature of the resulting mixture being below the dew of the mass and partial condensation resulting. Various investigations, notably those by the Scripps Institution for Biological Research, have demonstrated that there is an upwelling of relatively cold water along the California coast. The temperature of the surface water near the coast is distinctly lower than that farther west. During the summer months of anticyclonic control, when there is a diminished gradient and little cyclonic wind movement, the air over this region of relatively cold water is also relatively cold, as well as almost saturated. As the superincumbent air receives little or no heat from the cold surface water, it cools and therefore approaches its dewpoint. Moreover, the indraught over the interior, of air from the west, reinforces the prevailing westerly winds, and causes a slow but well-defined west to east movement. Over the upwelling water there is a mixing of the relatively cold and almost saturated local air with slightly warmer air coming in from a more westerly region. The latter air is also almost staurated because of the wide expanse of ocean surface over which it has passed. In the mixing the dewpoint is reached, and a portion of the invisible water vapor is condensed to form the visible

moisture particles which collectively are known as fog. Fog is simply a cloud in contact with the land or the ocean.

As the summer type of fog is principally due to the mixing of air masses differing in relative humidity and in temperature, it seldom results in measurable precipitation. Air masses which ascend and therefore expand and cool produce precipitation much more effectively. Though it is foggy along the California coast about 50 per cent of the time during the summer months, practically no precipitation is recorded. Certain kinds of vegetation have, through a long-continued process of adapting themselves to their environment, learned to precipitate water from the fog. For example, the redwood (Sequoia sempervirens), one of the most typical of California trees, has so successfully learned the art of precipitating mositure from fog that such a grove is dripping wet during a fog. It is a significant fact that this tree is found only in a narrow belt along the coast, and never more than 30 miles inland. Recent determinations show that the amount of liquid water in the densest fogs is very small; but large areas collect large amounts and perhaps some day irrigation will be aided by the use of some device for precipitating water

from fog as successfully as the redwood tree does it.

Winter fog.—Winter fog is less common than the summer type, and differs from it also in being of land origin. It occurs in all portions of California, and occasionally moves seaward, though it does not often go far offshore. It is very superficial, usually being but 100 to 200 feet deep. However, it resembles the summer type of fog in that it requires a weak barometric gradient for its formation, and vigorous wind movement prevents it from forming. It can be anticipated during the winter when a large high pressure area impinges upon the coast, and subsequently moves slowly southeastward. In California it is locally known as "tule fog" as it is of most frequent origin over tule lands which are swamps and marshes filled with tule or Mexican bulrush of the genus Scirpa. During the night, when stagnant air lies in contact with moist ground it loses heat through radiation aloft and through conduction to the ground. If the lowering of temperature proceeds far enough, partial condensation results in the formation of a "tule fog." This fog will persist until it is dried up by the sun from above, or is laterally displaced by cyclonic wind movement. As a factor in navigation it is less dangerous than summer fog because it is less frequent, is very shallow, and is not found far offshore. Navigators can often avoid it by taking an outside course. Occasionally, a lookout stationed at the top of the mast can see over the fog stratum, thus largely removing the danger of running ashore.

In California and vicinity the barometric conditions of Summer are wholly different from those of Winter. So, too, are the fogs, which are largely dependent on barometric gradients and the resulting winds. While the summer type of fog occasionally occurs in winter, it is uncummon, because the Aleutian Low then controls the weather of the North Pacific. The air is then cooler than the water, and contact between the two causes a rise in the temperatire of the air rather than a fall, and

hence a tendency to dispel fog.

SUMMARY.

Fog is the principal contributing cause of most of the marine disasters along the coast of California.

ship is wrecked through going ashore or by collision, it is usually during a period of fog. Fog prevails during a large part of the time, approximately 50 per cent of the summer months being foggy. Summer fogs originate over the ocean, are due primarily to the mixing of air masses differing in temperature and relative humidity, and coincide in extent largely with the up-welling of relatively cold water. Winter fogs, of land origin, are shallow in depth, and are caused by the cooling and partial condensation of the mositure in a stagnant mass of air lying in contact with moist ground. Both types of fog are associated with anticyclonic conditions, for they are dispelled by well-defined gradients and the resulting winds.

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RELATIVE FREQUENCY OF FOG AT UNITED STATES LIGHT-HOUSES.3

UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES.

Fog is more generally prevalent throughout the first district than any other, as shown by the following table, from which it will be seen that out of 29 stations in the entire service, averaging over 1,000 hours of fog per year, 14 or practically one-half are in that locality.

Dis- trict.	Station.	Average hours of fog per year.	Length of record.	Per cent of fog based on entire period.
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Manana Island, Me Point Arena, Cal	1,544 1,538 1,399 1,372 1,356 1,341 1,372 1,337 1,331 1,209 1,208 1,208 1,190 1,175 1,143 1,166 1,067 1,068 1,061 1,045	24 10 23 9	Per cent. 19 18 16 16 16 15 15 15 14 14 14 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 11 11

³ Quoted from *U. S. Bureau of Lighthouses*. The United States lighthouse service, 1915. Washington, 1916. 94 p. 8°. See p. 49.

² United States Coast Guard. International ice observation and ice patrol service in the North Atlantic Ocean, February to July, 1915. Washington, 1916, pp. 65-72. (U. S. Coast Guard, bulletin No. 5.)